

Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2018, 12:30 – 2:30 pm
Meeting Room #2, Felicia Mahood Multipurpose Center
11338 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Attendance: Members/Alternates:

Fran Diamond (Chair)
Kara Kemmler (Alternate)
Charles Caspary
Shelley Luce
EJ Caldwell (Alternate)

Absent:
Bruce Reznik
Gloria Gray
Sam Schuchat
Timothy Lippman

Staff:
Guangyu Wang (SMBRC)
Jack Topel (SMBRC)
Claire Waggoner (SWRCB)
David Coupe (SWRCB)

Guests:
Tom Ford
Erica Yelensky (via telephone line)
Walter Lamb

Meeting called to order at 12:35 p.m.

Fran Diamond chaired the meeting. Introductions followed.

Agenda Item 1. Public Comment

Walter Lamb indicated in his comment that a lawsuit against the Commission had not been filed, but was imminent.

Agenda Item 2. Informational Items

a. Order of Agenda

There was no change to the order of agenda.

b. Reports from the Chief Administrative Director and SMBNEP Staff

Guangyu Wang – Chief Administrative Director, indicated that his reporting would be covered under items on the EC agenda. Wang invited Tom Ford, Executive Director of

The Bay Foundation, to give an update on SMBNEP annual workplan activities carried out by The Bay Foundation. Ford briefed EC on various activities related to the Member questions and comments followed.

Agenda Item 3. Executive Committee Business

a) Consideration of Approval of September 20, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved with no amendments. Moved by Shelley Luce, seconded by Charles Caspary

b) Establish Governing Board Agendas

- i. Election of SMBRC Governing Board Chairs and Vice-Chairs (Comprising the Executive Committee.

Guangyu Wang discussed the process and timing of the election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs. He proposed that the Chair be elected at the December 2018 meeting, and Vice-Chairs be elected at the February 2019 meeting.

The motion passed without objection.

Moved by: EJ Caldwell; Seconded by: Kara Kemmler

- ii. Consideration of Approval of 2019 Governing Board Meeting Dates.

Guangyu Wang presented the 2019 Governing Board meeting dates and times. EC agreed that Governing Board should also consider keeping the extension of meeting times from 9:30 – 11:30 to 9:30 – 12:00.

The motion passed without objection.

Moved by: Charles Caspary; Seconded by: EJ Caldwell

- iii. Consideration of Approval of Prop. 12 Funding Recommendations.

Guangyu Wang gave an update on the status of Prop.12 solicitation. Wang informed the EC that staff was ready to recommend ten projects to the Governing Board at its December 13, 2018 meeting. Wang also noted that many of the projects did not have specific funding recommendations, as staff was still completing site visits and waiting for additional information from several applicants before determining specific funding recommendations. Additionally, Wang indicated that staff was giving applicants whose projects were impacted by the Woolsey Fire the opportunity to revise their applications to reflect any changes to the proposed project and funding needs.

Public Comment on Item 3b) iii

Walter Lamb commented on the recommended Prop. 12 project. Lamb also restated his request for an invasive species workshop.

Member questions and comments followed. Staff responded to member questions about specific projects and addressed questions related to undue influence in the grant recommendation process. David Coupe answered questions regarding definitions of “conflict of interest” and stated that he is looking into the issues raised by Mr. Lamb

The motion passed without objection.
Moved by: Shelley Luce Seconded by: EJ Caldwell.

iv. Workshop on Partnership Structure for the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program

Guangyu Wang and Tom Ford briefed members on the purpose and structure of the workshop proposed for the December 13, 2018 Governing Board meeting.

Public Comment on Item 3b) iv
Walter Lamb commented regarding the history and legal parameters of the SMBNEP, and the timing of future meeting announcements.

Member questions and comments followed. Erica Yelensky requested that EPA be allowed time during the workshop for a presentation.

The motion passed without objection.
Moved by: EJ Caldwell Seconded by: Kara Kemmler

b) Closed Session

Open meeting was adjourned at 1:58 pm.
Closed session was adjourned at 2:28 pm.